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THE ALL-NEW ALL-DIFFERENT

X-MEN



ARMAGEDDON NOW!

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MY FOOT!

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WAITING A LONG  
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Stan Lee  
PRESENTS

# THE UNCANNY X-MEN!

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JOHN BYRNE  
ARTIST

TERRY AUSTIN  
INKER

WOHL E ORZ, LETTERERS  
A YANCHUS, COLORIST

ARCHIE GOODWIN  
EDITOR

## ARMAGEDDON NOW!

THE WORLD HAS NO NAME.  
IT IS SIMPLY... THE WORLD.  
AND IT IS AS OLD AS TIME.  
FOR UNCOUNTED EONS,  
NO LIVING BEING HAS  
WALKED ITS SURFACE.

THAT HAS  
CHANGED.

LORD IN  
HEAVEN—  
THE SKY!

WHAT'S  
HAPPENIN'  
T' THE SKY?!!

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE CREATION, THE  
WORLD HAS KNOWN WAR—A WAR THAT,  
FOR THE BRIEFEST OF MOMENTS, THE  
X-MEN AND THEIR NEW-FOUND ALLIES, THE  
STARJAMMERS, THOUGHT THEY'D WON.

NOW, THEY'RE NOT SO SURE.

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WHICH BRINGS US TO STARC-  
CORE -- A UNITED NATIONS  
SUNWATCH STATION, THE MOST  
ADVANCED SPACELAB EVER  
BUILT...



...AND RIGHT NOW,  
THE HOME OF SOME VERY  
FRIGHTENED PEOPLE.

AMONG THEM, STARCORE'S NOBEL  
PRIZE-WINNING CREATOR, PETER  
CORBEAU...



MR. PRESIDENT,  
I DON'T KNOW! ALL  
I CAN TELL YOU IS  
WHAT HAPPENED!

FOR AN INSTANT,  
EVERYTHING WITHIN  
RANGE OF STARCORE'S  
SENSORS SIMPLY,  
LITERALLY CEASED  
TO EXIST.

AM I FIND THAT  
A LITTLE HARD  
TO BELIEVE,  
DR. COAHBEAU.  
MY SCIENCE  
ADVISORS DISPUTE  
THE ACCURACY  
OF YOUR DATA.



THAT'S RIGHT,  
PETER. OUR  
STUDY GROUP  
FEELS THAT  
YOU'VE --

YOU CAN  
FEEL WHAT  
YOU LIKE,  
JOEL. THAT  
WON'T CHANGE  
A BLESSED  
THING.



THIS IS NO TIME FOR  
FLIPPANCY, CORBEAU.

I'M BEYOND  
FLIPPANCY,  
RICHARDS. I  
THINK I'M EVEN  
BEYOND AWE.

GOOD GOD,  
DON'T ANY  
OF YOU  
UNDER-  
STAND?!!?

WE REGISTERED A TOTAL  
DISRUPTION OF THE NUCLEAR  
AND GRAVIMETRIC LINES OF  
FORCE THAT BIND ALL  
MATTER TOGETHER. AND  
IF THIS DISRUPTION  
SHOULD OCCUR AGAIN,  
LADIES AND GENTS...



...WE COULD VERY WELL  
BE WITNESSING THE  
END OF OUR UNIVERSE  
AS WE KNOW AND  
LIVE IN IT.

OH, MY  
STARS AND  
GARTERS.

THANK YOU, DOCTOR.  
WE'LL KEEP IN TOUCH.



IS THAT IT, TCHALLA?!  
CORBEAU TELLS US THE  
UNIVERSE IS GOING TO  
DIE -- AND ALL YOU  
CAN SAY IS, "WE'LL  
KEEP IN TOUCH"!

WE'RE THE AVENGERS.  
BLAST IT! WE'VE GOT TO  
BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING!

NOT THIS TIME,  
MY LOVE. IT'S TOO  
BIG AND TOO FAR  
AWAY. LIKE IT OR  
NOT, THIS ONE  
IS OUT OF  
OUR HANDS.



OH, HANK!  
HOLD ME  
CLOSE.  
I -- I'M  
SCARED.

I KNOW,  
BABY.  
SO AM I.

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BEEN WAITING FOR!

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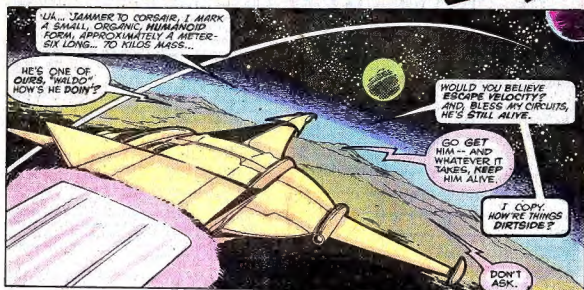
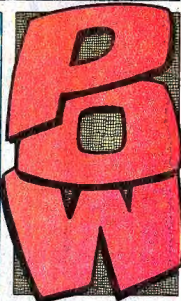
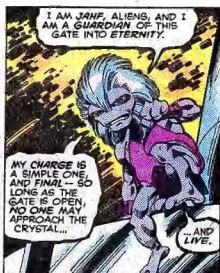
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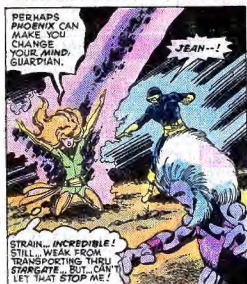
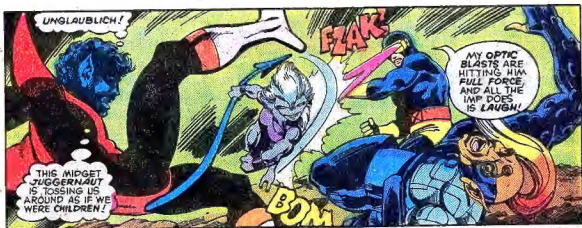
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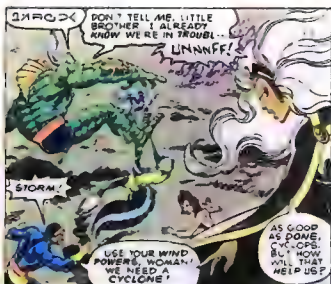
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**BANSHEE!**

ARE YOU WELL, MY FRIEND? WHEN WE HEARD THAT SCREAM...

I'M... BREATHIN' AN'... I'M WALKIN', STORM. I'LL SETTLE FOR THAT.

THROAT'S NEVER FELT SO... RAW... I CAN BARELY TALK.



YOU TOOK ONE HECKUYA RISK, PAL

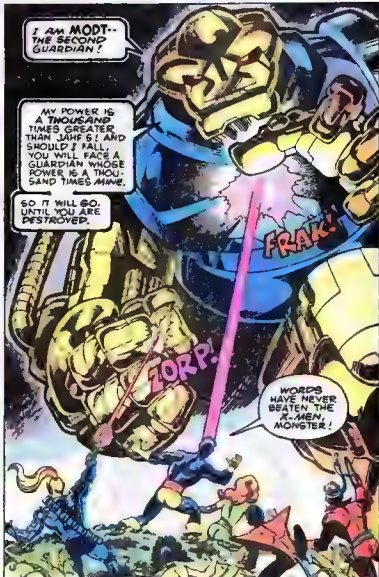
AH, SCOTT, YE KNOW BANSHEE'S ALWAYS BEEN A GAMBLIN' MAN. I FIGURED WHERE JEAN'S BLUNDERBUSS APPROACH FAILED...

--A FINER TOUCH MIGHT DO THE TRICK. SO, I HIT HIM WITH THE STRONGEST, TIGHTEST BEAMED SCREAM I'VE EVER TRIED.



A MAGNIFICENT STRATEGEM, INTRUDER! IT WILL BE PRESERVED IN OUR MEMORY BANKS FOR ALL TIME BUT IN DEFEATING THE FIRST GUARDIAN OF THE CRYSTAL

--YOU HAVE ONLY SUCCEEDED IN PROLONGING YOUR AGONY!



I AM MOD-- THE SECOND GUARDIAN!

MY POWER IS A THOUSAND TIMES GREATER THAN JAHF'S! AND SHOULD I FALL, YOU WILL FACE A GUARDIAN WHOSE POWER IS A THOUSAND TIMES MINE.

SO IT WILL GO, UNTIL YOU ARE DESTROYED.

**FRACK!**

**ZORP!**

WORDS HAVE NEVER BEATEN THE X-MEN, MONSTER!

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## SUPER-FUN--

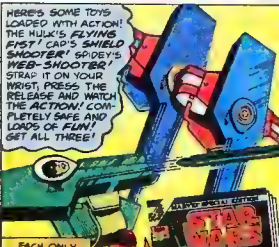
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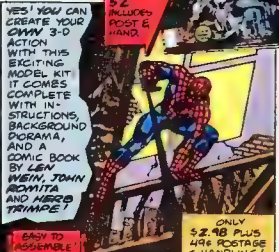


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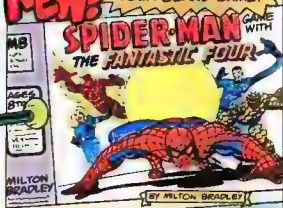
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*John Umstead*

Former Baltimore Colts  
Quarterback Johnny Umstead  
and son Ken

The sport a boy grows up with...

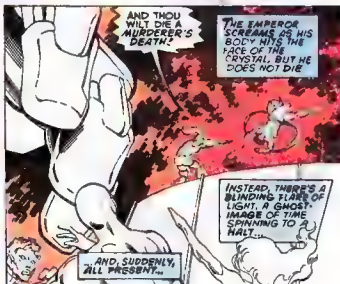
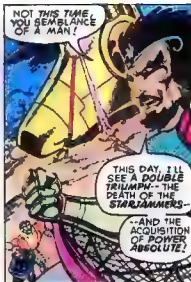
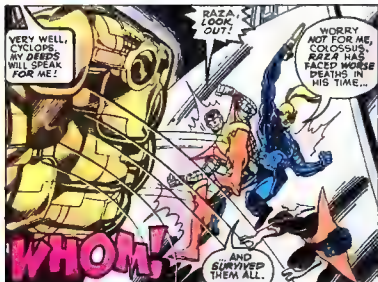
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...ARE SOME-  
WHERE ELSE.

AT FIRST GLANCE, IT'S A CITY MUCH LIKE  
ANY OTHER CITY: BUILDINGS, STREETS, PLAZAS,  
ALL DESIGNED BY DESIGNERS WHO WERE BOTH  
ARCHITECTS AND ARTISTS. A SILENT  
WHERE NOTHING MOVED, NOTHING LIVED.  
THE AIR IS STALE WITH THE OZONE  
TASTE THAT HANGS IN COASTAL CITIES.

I'VE NEVER  
SEEN SUCH SPACE,  
SUCH EMPTINESS...  
--YET I FEEL  
CLOSED IN, TRAP-  
PED, CAGED.

I'LL DRINK  
TO THAT, STORM. BUT  
WHAT IS  
THIS PLACE?

I DO NOT  
LIKE THIS  
PLACE.

ONE MOMENT WE'RE  
GETTING GLOBBED BY  
THAT GIANT-ECONOMY-  
SIZED ROBBIE THE ROBOT.  
THE NEXT, WE'RE ZAPPED  
HERE--AND HE'S NOT.

HUSH, SCOTT DON'T YOU  
SEE, MY LOVE? WE'RE  
INSIDE THE CRYSTAL.

THE GUARDIAN  
WAS CHARGED  
WITH KEEPING  
US OUT. HE HAS  
NO PLACE  
HERE--NO  
POWER OVER  
THOSE WHO  
PASS HIM.

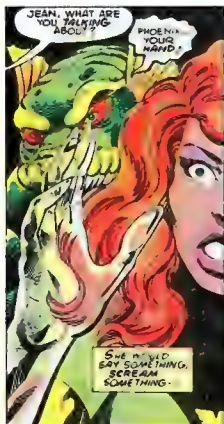
WE'RE...  
INSIDE THE  
CRYSTAL?  
HOW--?

REALITY AS  
WE KNOW IT  
HAS NO  
MEANING  
HERE.

AND WITHIN THIS SPHERE IS  
THE... HEART OF IT ALL. I CAN  
FEEL... LIFE, SCOTT. AND AMIN.  
SOMETHING IS CALLING TO ME.

SCOTT, I  
SENSE SUCH...  
BEAUTY.





JEAN, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

PHOENIX YOUR HAND!

SHE WOULD SAY SOMETHING, SCREAM SOMETHING.



PLUNGING PAST THEIR MENTAL DEFENSES AS IF THEY DON'T EXIST.

TURNING MINDS AND SOULS INSIDE OUT.



BEFORE DROPPING THEM INTO NIGHTMARE!

FOR NIGHTMARE, IT'S A MOB SCENE IN A REMOTE RAVENHAWK VILLAGE. HE'S BEING HUNTED, CAUGHT, KILLED.

FOR CORSAIR, IT'S A MEMORY TWO MEN FIGHTED WITH. LIKE, OVER THE BAIT OF A MENDRED WOMAN.

KATE! OH, MY GOD... KATE!!

FOR THE EMPEROR, IT'S FACING THE SOUL DRINKER-- HIS PET, DOLBYNINE, EXECUTIONER-- KNOWING THAT HIS TIME IS COME FOR HIM.

...BY HIS FRIENDS, THE PEOPLE HE TRUSTS CLOSEST FOR LOVE, MOST OF ALL IN THE WORLD-- THE X-MEN

WIFE



# WHAT DO YOU DO FOR LAUGHS IN LATVERIA?

DYNAMIC DICTATOR VICTOR VON DOOM READS:

THE MAGAZINE THAT DARES TO BE DUMB

# CRAZY

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# X-MEN MAIL

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 575 MADISON AVE., N.Y.C. 10022

I LIKE TO MAKE MY APOLOGIES IN ADVANCE...

Taking over a book from another artist is bad enough. Oftentimes one style differs from the other, and readers are subjected to a quantum lurch. But taking over a book from an artist one has admired for years—I might even go so far as to say an artist of whom I have myself been a fan—puts the newcomer through almost as bad a lurch as the readers—sometimes worse.

Taking over the X-MEN has put me through changes. Oh boy, has it put me through changes. Not enough that I have to follow in Dave Cockrum's footsteps, but the roll of artists on this book reads like a *Who's Who* of comics. Kirby, Smith, Steranko, Adams. And now Byrne? Byrne? Who is this guy? What's he done besides a late, lamented kung fu book? Okay, he co-created a very popular little robot a few years back, but no one is handing out laurels for past glories.

Sigh.

So bear with me, folks. Give the new kid a chance, Marvel trusts me. After all, they've let me play with Spider-Man. And the Avengers. And Daredevil. Now, the X-Men.

Bear with me. We may all come through this alive...

John Byrne  
London, Ontario  
May 10, 1977

Dear Archie,

Monthly! Monthly! Monthly! Monthly! Monthly!

John Meskunas  
224 Oakdale Rd.  
Johnson City, NY 13790

Lord knows we're trying. John (and only Amiable Archie knows how truly trying we are!). Truth be told, Mr. Goodwin would like nothing better than to see our Mixed-Up Mutants go monthly—if for no better reason than to resolve all of the darned dangling sub-plots! X-MEN's sales are, happily, more than high enough to justify pushing for a monthly status. How ever, there is the matter of book's schedule. That is to say, can the book physically be produced every four weeks? As things stand with the X-MEN now, that answer is no. Heck, John, these days we find ourselves wondering if we can even get the fershlugginer thing out on a bimonthly schedule! And where the X-MEN are concerned, Chris and John and Archie would rather keep the book bimonthly for a few more issues, build up a cushion and then go monthly with no lessening of the level of quality that's been established over the last dozen issues.

Believe us, pilgrims, it's as frustrating a situation for us as it is for you. Also believe that we'd rather do it this way because all concerned want X-MEN to be the best possible book it can. And, quality often takes a little longer.

Dear X-Armadillo,

Stomoway! I love you, Marvel! I needed a cold shower just to snap me out of the splash page. I dam-near hyperventilated by page 3. In the hour-or-so since I got my mitts on #104, I've been wandering around looking like the cat that ate the canary, muttering snatches of Gaelic, German, and impossible slang.

The New X-MEN are definitely worth waiting 60 for, but I'm still pushing for 30. Whatey?

Long live the X-MEN!

Eileen McMicking  
179 Melville St.  
Dundas, Ontario, Canada L9H 2A9

Your last question, we've already covered, Ellen; and we dearly thank you for the compliment implied in your opening word. Chris has had an affection for the Scots Highlands—for Scotland itself—that goes back to when he was a wee bairn, just out of High School and on his own for the first time. Indeed, just last year he and his bonnie blushing bride wandered about Edinburgh, Inverness, and Loch Ness, marveling at the sights and wondering why everyone wore cowboy boots and spoke with a Texas twang.

Dear Bullpersons,

The second I saw the cover of X-MEN #104, I liked it. It was energetic, exciting, but somehow warmly familiar. Finally, overcome by *deje vu*, I opened SONS OF ORIGINS to page 19, and my bemused smile turned into a wide grin, until finally I was laughing out loud. Dave's sly homage to Jack's original work was perfectly done, right down to the "MAGNETO Earth's Most Powerful Super-Villain" I'm still smiling.

The story was also quite good. It was appropriate that Magneto, now at his peak power level, should defeat these barely trained, leaderless young mutants; although I was rooting for the X-Men, my money was on the villain. Also interesting was Prof. MacTaggart's "island paradise." I'm looking forward to seeing more of this in the future—but I'm certainly willing to put it off for Phoenix vs. Firelord!

Loved that cover!

Bennet Marks  
840 Coleman Ave. #18  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Loved that letter, too, Ben (though we're sorry we had to trim it a bit for space). Yours was one of a great many letters that commented—favorably—on the cover, and Dave is pleased as punch that so many people liked his modest tribute to Jack Kirby.

Next issue: The title says it all—"Homecoming"—and it all takes place in just sixty days. Join us then, people. Aloha.



# Super

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J. Johnson

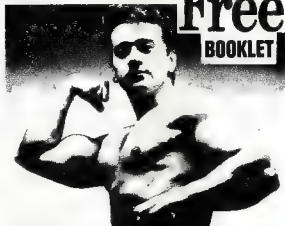
"In just 3 weeks I have gained 1 1/2" on my arms and 4" on my chest. I have also lost 4" off my waist. Your course is just great!"  
D. Roberts

"I was a skinny weakling when I enrolled, now I've gained 30 pounds in just 45 days. I am truly amazed, I'm going to be dynamite on the beach"  
B. Abbott

"I'm transforming all the fat off my body and changing it into rock hard muscle. It's amazing - I have lost 8" off my waist. I can actually see my muscles growing from day to day"  
P. Williams

"I have gained 20 pounds in just 30 days and I have gained over 6 inches on my chest. I find that my power has doubled. In sports I am a winner in everything do"  
B. Daniels

"I have gained 5" on my arms and 12" on my chest while losing 3" off my waist. I have tripled my power and speed. Thanks for what you have done for me!"  
M. Robinson



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TOO LATE, PHOENIX!

THAT SOUND--?!  
OH, NO! THE  
SPHERE!!

AS SCOTT FELL, HIS  
EYE BEAMS HIT IT  
HEAD ON--AND NOW  
IT'S SHATTERING!  
WHATEVER'S LOCKED  
INSIDE IS BREAKING  
FREE!

WHAT DO I DO NOW?  
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S IN  
THERE, AND EVEN IF I DID,  
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO  
STOP IT? I--I'M ALL  
ALONE!

SKA-  
RAKK!

THE FIRST THING-- IS NOT TO PANIC. I  
AM AN X-MAN. I'VE BEEN IN TOUGH SPOTS  
BEFORE, AND I'VE ALWAYS COME THROUGH  
WITH FLYING COLORS.

SOMEHOW, I SENSE THAT  
SPHERE AND I ARE BOUND TO-  
GETHER--AS IT LOSES IT'S HOLD  
ON REALITY, I LOSE MINE.

THE ANSWER  
--THE REASON  
WHY--MUST  
BE INSIDE.

AND, AS SHE ENTERS...

MY MIND!  
THE IMAGES--  
THE NIGHT-  
MARE--IT'S  
GONE!

AS IF...  
IT HAD  
NEVER  
BEEN

I MANAGED TO CANCEL THE  
NIGHTMARE FIELD AS I SHIFTED  
INTO THE SPHERE. BUT--WHAT'S  
HAPPENED TO ME...?

I'M... BEAUTIFUL.  
I'M JEAN--YET I'M  
PHOENIX. AND I FEEL  
... AS IF, FOR THE FIRST  
TIME IN MY LIFE, I'M--  
TRULY ALIVE!

HER JOY SUSTAINS HER AS SHE SOARS DEEP INTO THE SPHERE--AND  
THEN, WITHOUT WARNING, SHE'S AT ITS HEART. AND WORDS, THOUGHTS,  
FEELINGS--ALL FAIL HER, BECAUSE NO HUMAN MIND--NOT EVEN HERS--  
CAN BEGIN TO COMPREHEND THE DARKSOME MATEMATY THAT IS A NEUTRON GALAXY.

THERE'S SUCH...  
POWER HERE.

BOUND WITHIN THIS--COSMIC  
LATTICEWORK OF--ANTI-ENERGY? I  
DON'T HAVE THE WORDS--THE CONCEPTS  
--TO DESCRIBE IT, BUT THIS LATTICE--  
IT'S ALIVE!

AND IT'S--DYING.



AND WHEN THE LATTICE DIES, THE NEUTRON GALAXY WILL BE FREE.

IN HER MIND'S-EYE, SHE WITNESSES THE POSSIBLE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME.

NOTHING WILL BE SPARED AS THE POWER OF THIS NEAR INFINITE MASS REACHES OUT ACROSS THE UNIVERSE.

PULLING STARS AND PLANETS FROM THEIR ORBITS WITH MONSTROUS EASE--

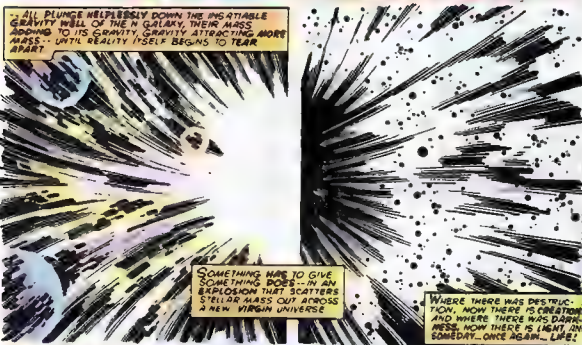


--DESTROYING THEM ALL IN THE PROCESS.

FOR IS THIS NOT POWER ABSOLUTE? IS THIS NOT THE END OF ALL THAT IS?

SO MANY WORLDS, SO MANY LIVES, SHUFFED OUT IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE--WORLDS, SOLAR SYSTEMS, CLUSTERS, GALAXIES, MEGA GALAXIES--

--ALL PLUNGE HELPLESSLY DOWN THE PIERCABLE GRAVITY WELL OF THE N GALAXY, THEIR MASS ADDING TO ITS GRAVITY, GRAVITY ATTRACTING MORE MASS--UNTIL REALITY ITSELF BEGINS TO TEAR APART.



SOMETHING HAD TO GIVE SOMETHING DOES--IN AN EXPLOSION THAT SCATTERS STELLAR MASS OUT ACROSS A NEW VIRGIN UNIVERSE.

WHERE THERE WAS DESTRUCTION, NOW THERE IS CREATION. AND WHERE THERE WAS DARKNESS, NOW THERE IS LIGHT. AND SOMEDAY...ONCE AGAIN... LIFE!



POWER FLARES FROM PHOENIX TO THE LATTICE, AND WHERE HER BEAMS TOUCH, THE SILVERY ENERGY STRANDS GLOW A FRACTION BRIGHTER.

SHE DOES HER BEST...





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**LEG**



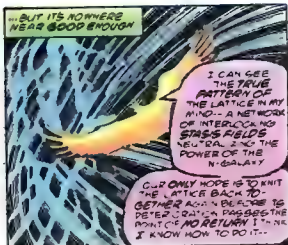
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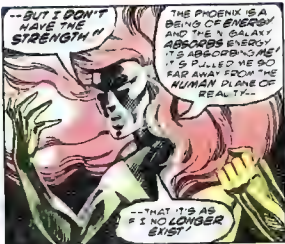
**— SOLD ON MONEY BACK GUARANTEE —**



BUT ITS NOWHERE  
NEAR GOOD ENOUGH

I CAN SEE  
THE TRUE  
PATTERN OF  
THE LATTICE IN MY  
MIND-- A NETWORK  
OF INTERLOCKING  
STRESS FIELDS  
NEUTRALIZING THE  
POWER OF THE  
N-GALAXY

OUR ONLY HOPE IS TO KNIT  
THE LATTICE BACK TO-  
GETHER AGAIN BECAUSE IS  
PETER CRATCHEN PASSING THE  
POINT OF NO RETURN I THINK  
I KNOW HOW TO DO IT--



--BUT I DON'T  
HAVE THE  
STRENGTH--

THE PHOENIX IS A  
BEING OF ENERGY  
AND THE N GALAXY  
ABSORBS ENERGY  
IT'S ABSORBING ME!  
IT'S PULLED ME SO  
FAR AWAY FROM THE  
HUMAN PLANE OF  
REALITY--

--THAT IT'S AS  
IF I NO LONGER  
EXIST!



BUT YOU  
DO EXIST!

YOU NEED AN ANCHOR IN THIS  
COSMIC MAELSTROM, LEAN  
I WILL BE THAT ANCHOR

AHHHH--  
YESSS--

NO! STORM--  
ORORO, YOU  
DON'T KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE SAYING!

THE "ANCHOR"  
YOU OFFER IS  
YOUR LIFE-  
FORCE!



IT IS MY LIFE TO  
GIVE, MY FRIEND



EVEN IF I TOOK IT ALL, ORORO,  
IT STILL WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH

BUT YOU'VE GIVEN  
ME AN IDEA WHERE  
ONE WON'T SERVE,  
TWO WILL GIVE ME  
WHAT I NEED, AND  
--PERHAPS-- LEAVE  
BOTH DONORS  
ALIVE!

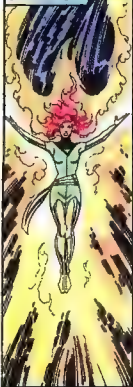
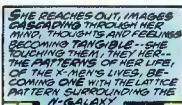
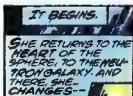
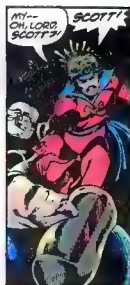
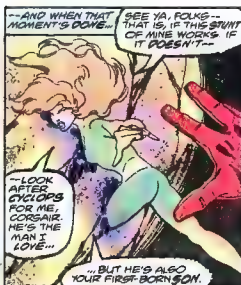
CORBAR  
--HELP ME!

WHY  
SHOULD I?



MAJOR SUMMERS--  
PLEASE! THERE'S  
NO MORE TIME!

TAKE  
MY  
HAND





Stan Lee  
Presents

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## STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

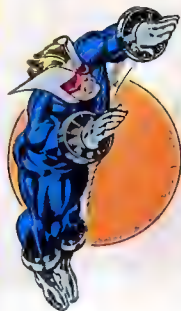
Okay World, you can stop holding your breath now! Here's the info everyone's been waiting for: the list of fantastic females featured in the latest "Origins" book to be published by Simon & Schuster and going on sale in October at book stores everywhere! Pay close attention now—there may be a test at the end of the column! Titled **THE SUPERHERO WOMEN** (what else?) we're featuring blow-bustin' yarns about Madame, Black Widow, Sue Storm, The Cat Man, Marvel's Fabulous Formons, Hela and Sif, Shanna the She-Devil, the Wonderful West and the over-lovin' Red Sonja. Naturally, you'll also meet all the happy-go-lucky heroines whom the gals have been associated with, as well! Now do you see why we're suggesting you reserve your copy of **THE SUPERHERO WOMEN** as early as possible? This one promises to outsell all the rest! And, speaking of exciting new publications, in case you've been wondering what the mysterious PIZZAZZ is all about here's the inside scoop: It's a brand new publication for Marvel's younger readers, from ages 8 to 9 to early teens. Printed on glossy paper with puzzles, games, stories, comics, and more colorful pictures than you can wiggle a web at, it emphasizes features about TV and records with a generous sprinkling of our own omnipresent super heroes thrown in! The first issue will only be on sale in the southern portion of the U.S. (for some reason that presently escapes me!) so if you can't survive another minute without it, you'll find a subscription blank somewhere or other in some of our mags at some time or other (nobody can accuse us of not being definite and precise)! Finally, just to what your awesome appetite here are some of the mighty Marvel heroes which Universal TV is currently filming for prime time showings: five action-over CBS TV this fall! The incredible Hulk! Sub-Mariner! And...in preparation...Captain America, The Human Torch, and one of our fabulous females, as well. As soon as we decide which one she'll be, I'll clue you in! There's even more to come so stay tuned, thank you! And while you're waiting and basking in all this multifarious munificence, remember—always be gentle to your fellow man—he may be resisted to living Forth!

Excelsior!

Stan

For instance, we've got two of our most awesome Annuals to ease the burden of any back-to-school blues you might be suffering. First there's the **TWO IN ONE ANNUAL**. This time the two are The Thing and Spider-Man, but thanks to writer/artist JIM STARLIN (and also to a nifty new addition to our inking ranks, JOE RUBINSTEIN) there's also about a pilon super guests joining them for this frantic finish to the war with the mad god Thanos which began in this year's **AVENGERS ANNUAL**. Next from the brain team of ROY THOMAS and JOHN BUSCHMA, there's the **CONAN ANNUAL**, which puts the bonus-length size of these books to brilliant use with a carefully concocted sequel to the only full-length novel Conan's creator ROBERT E. HOWARD ever wrote: namely **CONAN THE CONQUEROR**. And if all these somewhat less than subtle hints aren't enough to send you stampeding to your local comics outlet, then we'll just have to trot out another.

Besides the duo of double-length darlings plugged above, September also marks the **MARVEL PREMIERE** appearance of the tempestuous **TORPEDO**. His guest stints last year in **DAREDEVIL** drew an unprecedented pile of requests to try him in his own solo series. And, though it sometimes takes as a while to come through, the Bullpen never turns a deaf ear to the demands of you Marvelites. Hence in a special two-hour special, the **Torpedo**, as masterminded by his originator/writer/editor MARY WOLFGMAN with penciling by the late BOB BROWN and inking by Amiable AL MCGROOM. You've been asking for this one fellow fantasy fanboys, so don't let it get away from you.



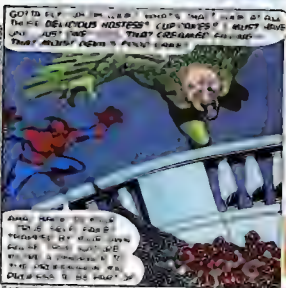
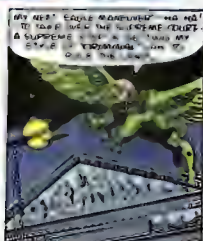
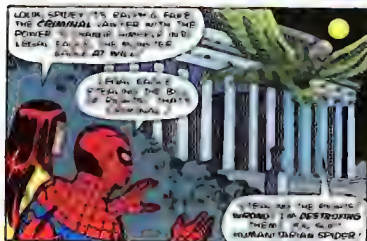
ITEM! It's magazine time again, after arduous hunts and pecks his way through those pertinent passages, and that means that at least one day each week a horde of Bullpenners desert their desks and drawing boards, the instant moving time approaches and surge toward Central Park's Sheep Meadow for another scintillating session of softball. Marvel says: This year's team captains are "Huff" Sade NELSON YOMTOV and jubilant **JOHN ROM TA JR.** who thus far have guided our tanglebusting ten through victories over Grosser & Dunlap and Magazine Management and clinched up sagging spirits over defuncts from Plenum Publishing and a certain weekly newspaper whose title does not fall within the bounds of the comics code. A long season still stretches ahead of us, so watch this space for further word of triumphs and tragedies on the softball diamond. But lest you think the Bullpenners are strictly one sport athletes, be advised that the Central Park grounds also shake once a week from the thunder of a growing group of Marvel volleyball enthusiasts. There's no established league in this case but that doesn't prevent much spirited spiking and striking from such Bullpen summerers as JIM (Trouble) SHOOTER, lovely LEN WEIN, heavenly HELEN KATZ, organizer of the games as well as guardian of the gates of our ninth floor offices) and Wondrous WALT SIMONSON. To say nothing of guest appearances by some ever-starved employees of our Distinguished Corporation (the only problem with them is finding telephone booths for them all to change in). Let's face it, friends, this summer season the hills of Central Park are alive with the sound of muscle strain.

ITEM! Hey it was like old times around the hallowed halls last week when erstwhile editor-in-chief ROY THOMAS dropped in for a visit. The Rascally One flew in from his West Coast home and stepped around to chat about **CONAN** and all his other books, particularly our two-volume **Marvel Treasury Edition of STAR WARS** (Part one is currently on sale if you're lucky, and part two will be reinstated bound in October). In addition, Roy filled us in on the movie and TV work he has in the works (and as fast as they become final we'll be letting you know, Marvelers). He then rushed on to Philadelphia for an appearance at the July 4th Comiccon as keynote speaker. All that California sunshine and soft sea air hasn't slowed Mr. T down a bit. Keep it up, Roy, you're an inspiration to us all!

ITEM! If you haven't subscribed to **FOOM** (and if we have to tell you that that stands for Friends Of Marvel turn in your living Forth decider badge) then now is surely the time. Next ish #10 will be the special **DEFENDERS** issue, everybody's fave non-group who voted by **FOOM** readers as the subject they'd most like to see resurrected. Coming up after that editor DAVE KRAFT is rearing up an Edgar Rice Burroughs issue. So, don't tear out on all the other info you subscribe today! And come see us here again same time, same page next month.

ITEM! After all the goodies set forth by Stan the Man in his soapbox can there be any other bulbs with which to snort, snuffle, and otherwise torture you? Well if we say no, it'd be deserts, but it'd also be

# SPIDER-MAN® IN "LEGAL EAGLE"



SO LARGE  
SHE DIMINISHES  
THE ENTIRE  
SOLAR  
SYSTEM

SHE FALTERS--PANIC SEIZING HER AS SHE REAL-  
IZES THAT FOR ALL HER AWESOME POWER SHE  
STILL CAN'T DO IT ALONE. EXACTLY WHEN, INSTANTLY,  
SHE WON'T ALONE THE SPIRITS OF THE X-MEN  
ARE WITH HER, GIVING OF THEMSELVES AS  
STORM AND COLOSSUS GAVE

IN THAT INSTANT  
AS SHE FEELS HER  
POWER THE POWER  
OF HER FRIENDS,  
SHE, WITH THEM, AS  
SHE REGENERATES  
THE ENERGY, "IT'S  
AS IF A DOOR  
HAD OPENED BEFORE  
HER EYES

A NEW PATTERN FORMS--SHAPE  
LIKE THE MYSTIC TREES OF LIFE--  
WITH FINGER "S" LOFT "DOWN" AND  
COLLOSSUS "S" BASE EACH X-MAN  
HAD A PLACE EACH A PURPOSE  
GREATER THAN HIMSELF FOR HERSELF

AND THE HEART OF  
THE TREE THE CAT-  
ALYST "HAT" BINDS  
THESE WAYWARD SOULS  
TOGETHER "S" PHOENIX,  
"S" FRAGRANT CHILD OF  
THE SUN CHILD OF  
LIFE "THE VISION OF  
THE HARMONY OF THINGS

IT'S THE LAST THING SHE  
SEES AS SHE COMPLETES  
THE "AT" "S" EXHAUSTION  
TODAY, NO HER IN "UNCON-  
SCIOUSNESS" IT'S AN IMAGE  
SHE'LL CARRY WITH HER  
TILL SHE DIES

--AS WE TURN OUR ATTENTION TO A CERTAIN STARGATE ON A  
CERTAIN ROOF-TOP IN NEW YORK'S FAMED GREENWICH VILLAGE



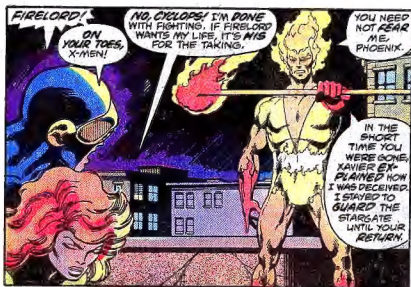
MY FRIENDS  
--WE ARE  
HOME!!

AND NOT A  
MOMENT TOO SOON,  
I THINK EVEN THE  
SMOG SMELLS GOOD  
-- MEN GO!!

GREETINGS  
X-MEN I HAVE  
BEEN EXPECTING  
YOU

WHICH MAY  
TURN OUT TO  
BE WORSE  
THAN SHE  
THINKS--





**FIRELORD!**

ON YOUR TOES, X-MEN!

NO, CYCLOPS! I'M DONE WITH FIGHTING. IF FIRELORD WANTS MY LIFE, IT'S HIS FOR THE TAKING.

YOU NEED NOT FEAR ME, PHOENIX.

IN THE SHORT TIME YOU WERE GONE, XAVIER EXPLAINED HOW I WAS DECEIVED. I STAYED TO GUARD THE STARGATE UNTIL YOUR RETURN.

BEFORE ANYONE CAN RESPOND, THE GATE OPENS A SECOND TIME, TO REVEAL...

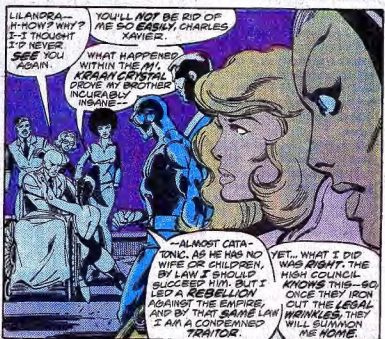


**LILANDRA!**



WITHOUT A WORD, THE ALIEN PRINCESS MOVES AWAY FROM THE GATE, ITS METAL FRAME BURNING WHITE-NOT BEHIND HER, THE STRUTS COLLAPSING IN ON THEMSELVES...

...UNTIL THERE'S NOTHING LEFT BUT A SMALL PILE OF SLAGGED STEEL.



LILANDRA--H-HOW? WHY? I-I THOUGHT I'D NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN.

YOU'LL NOT BE RID OF ME SO EASILY, CHARLES XAVIER.

WHAT HAPPENED WITHIN THE M'. KRAAN CRYSTAL DROVE MY BROTHER INCURABLY INSANE--

--ALMOST CATASTROPHIC. AS HE HAS NO WIFE OR CHILDREN, BY LAW I SHOULD SUCCEED HIM. BUT I LED A REBELLION AGAINST THE EMPIRE, AND BY THAT SAME LAW I AM A CONDEMNED TRAITOR.

YET... WHAT I DID WAS RIGHT. THE HIGH COUNCIL KNOWS THIS--SO, ONCE THEY IRON OUT THE LEGAL WRINKLES, THEY WILL SUMMON ME HOME.



TILL THEN, MY DEAREST LOVE, I AM EXILED HERE ON EARTH.

AND I AM YOURS.

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS, NO ONE MAY SAY. BUT FOR NOW, THERE IS SILENCE...

...AND PEACE.

THIS BOOK DEDICATED WITH RESPECT AND ADMIRATION TO DAVE COCKRUM-- WHO HELPED MAKE THE DREAM A REALITY.

I'M NOT DEAD--DAVE COCKRUM.

**NEXT ISSUE, THERE SHALL COME A HERO!**

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Then you go on to more advanced pieces. By this time you can tell if your notes and timing are right, even without ever having heard the songs before. Sooner than you might think possible, you'll be able to play whatever kind of music you like. Folk. Popular. Classical. Show and dance tunes. Hymns.

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